

August 1884

BREEZE'S
HYGIENIC, VAPOUR BATH,
AND
BOTANIC ESTABLISHMENT.
STRATFORD, LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1852.

REASONS FOR NOT SUBMITTING
TO
RENEWED VACCINATION.

Reprinted from the Dispatch, June 22, 1884.

Sir,

With reference to your leading article in this week's *Dispatch*, on small-pox, as you undertake the responsibility of advising the public to submit themselves to renewed vaccination, perhaps you will kindly allow one of the public so advised to give a few reasons for not submitting to renewed vaccination.

1. Deaths from small-pox increase as activity in vaccination increases, the deaths in London alone from 1871 to 1880 being 15,551, or an increase—allowing for proportionate increase of population—of over 5,000 on the previous decade.
2. Drs. G. and F. E. Hoggan, specialists in microscopic pathological investigation, say that vaccination by lymph said to have been “microscopically tested and proved to be pure, we stigmatise unhesitatingly as an impudent fraud on a credulous public. There is no indication for knowing vaccine lymph to be pure, or only what is it represented to be, by means of the microscope.”

3. Science teaches that it is dangerous to insert even anything pure into the blood by means of the lancet, because in the very act of so doing germs of disease may enter at the same time.
4. A large number of medical men strongly condemn the practice, although to do so is a pecuniary loss to them.
5. All other filth diseases, such as black death, plague, and sweating sickness, have completely died out owing to general improvements in sanitation, and small-pox would have died out likewise if it had not been kept alive artificially by vaccination.
6. Dr. Stowell, twenty years a vaccine physician, says "vaccination is not only an illusion but a curse to humanity; more than ridiculous, it is irrational to say that any corrupt matter taken from boils and blisters of an organic creature could affect the human body otherwise than to injure it. I know more than a hundred physicians who think like me."
7. Dr. Gregory, physician for many years to the Small-pox Hospital, says, "The idea of extinguishing small-pox by vaccination is as absurd as chimerical, as irrational as arrogant. The susceptibility to small-pox grows with years in those that are vaccinated; the opposite is the case with those not vaccinated."
8. Dr. Jenner, the discoverer of the practice of vaccination, said it would "stamp out small-pox in Europe in thirty years," and yet now, more than eighty years after this wild assertion was made, we are threatened with another epidemic.
9. The statistics of the vaccinators have been shown by Mr. P. A. Taylor, M.P., and others, to be most untruthful. "Magna est veritas et prevalebit."

yours, &c.,

G. I.



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SANITATION *v.* VACCINATION.

SIR,

The dogmatic utterances of your correspondent, Professor Ray Lankester, are so utterly opposed to the teachings of true science and to the experience of ages, that I venture to solicit, for the benefit of your readers, the insertion of the views of two eminent physicians and sanitarians, men who are not merely theorists, but engaged in the active practice of their profession. Dr. Lankester asserts that health is no protection against disease, and that fear does not predispose to an attack of infection.

Dr. B. W. Richardson, F.R.S., in his address at the Brighton Health Congress, 1881, says : “ The true preventives of disease are pure blood and a healthy life,”

Dr. Littlejohn, Medical Officer of Health for Edinburgh, as the result of a long experience, says, in his annual report for 1879 :—

For twenty-five years I have been engaged in active sanitary work, and have had, with very limited staff, to cope with serious outbreaks of cholera, small-pox, fever, scarlatina, measles, and whooping-cough, and although I have, during that period, brought up a large family, I have never communicated any of these diseases to my children or dependents, nor am I aware that any of the numerous sanitary inspectors who have acted under me have ever contracted or communicated these diseases while in the public service. To live in the constant dread of infection is one of the surest methods of courting the risk of an attack. It is a popular, and I believe a true, saying with regard to cholera, that the fear of it kills more than the scourge itself. This holds equally good of other forms of infection ; and the sanitary inspector, to be an efficient public servant, must be assured of this cardinal fact, that infectious germs of all kinds have no power of successfully attacking the healthy individual.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

W. YOUNG, M.P.S.

114, Victoria Street, S.W., June 15, 1884.

HOW TO STAMP OUT THE SMALL-POX.

The small-pox takes its dreadful march most unresisted amongst the poor, where they are crowded together like negroes in the middle passage ; where the commonist sanitary arrangements are so passed over, that the air is a mist of foul and pestilential vapour ; where the water is all tainted with unspeakable filth ; where to relieve thirst with water is to produce disease or death by poison ; where the dust heaps remain for weeks piled up against the windows ; where the small-pox finds weakened bodies, starved frames, ignorant fear-enslaved minds on which to work its will ; it is there that the plague revels. Destroy these conditions and you will stamp out the disease.

THE SMALL-POX EPIDEMIC.

Mrs. Sarah Hagon, of 116, York-road, Islington, applied to Mr. Slade, at Clerkenwell Police-court, yesterday, for advice under the following circumstances :—Her six children, aged from three months to 11 years, had all been attacked with small-pox, and had been removed from her house during the past month and taken to the hospital at Purfleet. She and her husband kept a small sweetstuff shop. The house was in a very dirty condition when she first went to it, and she had done her best to clean it, but it was a very dirty and neglected neighbourhood. Four families living near the shop had been attacked with typhoid fever. It was a very low neighbourhood, and it was not easy for poor people to leave their houses. She felt that she could not rest in the place, but she was behind with her rent. A sanitary inspector had visited her premises, but she believed that the condition of some of the surrounding houses was such as to foster disease.—Mr. Slade was afraid that he could not do much for the applicant, as it was not a matter which rested with him. He would send a police officer to make inquiries.—*Daily Chronicle*, June 27, 1884.